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ETHIOPIA DROUGHT  
PLAN OF ACTION

I. Introduction: Ethiopia is facing a chronic food shortage of unprecedented proportions. The population at risk of starvation is estimated at over six million people. Reports indicate that 250,000 may have already died. Drought in the north, especially in the Tigray and Eritrea areas, has continued for several years. Drought in the south, which represents an extension northward of the drought affecting Kenya, has worsened during the last year. Ethiopia does not have the resources to meet this disaster. Relief efforts are complicated by heavy fighting in the northern areas and country-wide by inadequate transport and logistics support.

II. U.S. Policy: The USG has expressed a humanitarian commitment to provide the necessary food and other assistance to help in meeting the food needs of the Ethiopian population affected by the drought in all needy areas.

III. Means: The USG utilizes a combination of resources to respond to the disaster in Ethiopia. These resources include PL 480 Title II food commodities; funds available under the disaster relief legislation, and under the new provisions contained in the PL-480 Title II section of the FY 85 Continuing Resolution.

IV. Implementation: AID is the focal point for the coordination of all USG activities related to the provision of relief food and complementary assistance to Ethiopia. Other key USG agencies involved are State Department and U.S. Department of Agriculture. A task force has been established to facilitate coordination of drought relief activities throughout Africa. The task force on the Africa drought is headed by Gen. Julius Becton and includes participants from various AID offices and USG agencies. Working in close coordination with that task force, AFR/EA has the leadership for ensuring that needs in Ethiopia are analyzed and proposed assistance commitments are evaluated and acted upon.

A significant portion of U.S. relief assistance is channeled through private voluntary and international organizations such as the World Food Program (WFP) and the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC). A list of assistance provided through these organizations is attached as Annex 1. A Government to Government program is being negotiated with the GOE to further complement the relief assistance being provided through these organizations. The detailed actions related to the Ethiopia drought are listed under Section V.

## V. Plan of Action

### Objective I. Increase and Expedite the Flow of Emergency Food Assistance:

<u>Actions</u>	<u>Responsible Offices</u>	<u>Status</u>
(1) Response to an ICRC FFP, State/RP Special request for food	AFR/EA	Completed. 3,610 MT of food approved Sept. 12, 1984
(2) Response to an ICRC State/RP worldwide special funding request		Completed. Granted \$6.3 million on Sept. 24, 1984 representing more than U.S. proportional share
(3) PVO meeting to initiate more coordinated and appropriate response to Ethiopia situation	AFR/EA	Completed. Meeting held Sept. 19, 1984
(4) Encourage formation of PVO consortium to facilitate concerted response to disaster	AFR/EA	Completed. Consortium formed October 1984
(5) Analyze and respond to proposals presented by PVO consortium for PL 480 Title II emergency assistance	FFP/DCC	32,559 MT approved by DCC on 10/11/84 for distribution thru CRS. Balance of food requested (150,000 MT) in proposal to be considered by DCC on October 24, 1984.
(a) WFP food request (12,000 MT)	FFP/DCC	To be presented to DCC October 24, 1984
(b) LWR food request 4,750 MT	FFP/DCC	LWR has not presented a formal request yet. Proposal will be considered as soon as submitted
(c) ICRC additional food request	FFP/DCC	ICRC has not presented a formal request yet. Proposal will be considered as soon as submitted

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| (d) Other pending food requests<br>-- 100,000 MT through PVOs  | FFP/DCC   | Proposal will be considered when submitted   |
| -- 90,000 gvt to gvt monetization<br>-- 30,000 gvt to gvt regular<br>-- 23,000 MT WFP<br>-- 28,000 MT for non-gvt controlled areas (through Sudan) | FFP/DCC   | The Gvt to Gvt proposals will be combined into one proposal for 120,000 MT for regular program. Other proposals will be considered when submitted.   |
| (6) Analyze and respond to proposals for emergency inland transport assistance   | OFDA/FFP  |  |
| (a) PVO consortium transport request of \$2,475,000  | OFDA/AF/E | In process of approval   |
| (b) Make available funds earmarked under disaster Declaration Provisions for transport of food from Assab to Makelle.                              |           | Embassy declared disaster on <u>10/14</u> & OFDA allocated \$25,000 on <u>10/14</u> . These funds will be used for internal transport costs. An additional \$75,000 will be provided when requested following the use of the initial \$25,000. |
| (c) Provide funds to meet other internal transport requirements for Makelle Relief   | OFDA/FFP  |  |
| -- \$7.5 million to transport 150,000 MT to be provided through PVOs   |           | Funding split to be agreed between OFDA and FFPO.  |
| -- \$3.2 million to transport the 32,559 MT approved for distribution through CRS  |           | Funding split to be agreed between OFDA and FFPO.  |

- 2.0 million to transport the 28,000 MT through Sudan for the non-govt. controlled areas. Funding split to be agreed between OFDA and FFPO.
- \$7.0 million for Govt-to-Govt Program (This is a contingent request as we will try to persuade the GOE to cover the distribution costs). Funding split to be agreed between OFDA and FFPO.
- (d) Follow-up on the provision of plane transports from Assad to Makelle by Caritas and the GOE. AFR/EA Caritas has agreed to rent plane. We have used the first \$25,000 under the disaster declaration funds to pay for fuel of planes to be provided by GOE.
- (e) CRDA request for OFDA funds to purchase two Mercedes trucks with trailers to be used for distribution. Under consideration.
- (f) Follow-up on appeal to International donor community to be made by the Relief Society of Tigray (REST) for Food Assistance (around 30,000 MT) and trucks (about 116) to determine international response and USG position. AFR/EA, AF/E Rest appeal has not been finalized yet.

Objective II. Enhance AID's internal capability and quality of information to assure adequate management and effective response to the disaster situation in Ethiopia.

- (1) Establish working group to assure effective coordination of all activities AFR/EA A working group on Ethiopia began regular meetings on October 18, 1984
- (2) Develop tracking mechanism to assure that all actions are acted upon promptly. AFR/EA An informal system has been developed to review on a daily basis the status of different actions and assign responsibility for pending actions.

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| (3) Assign AID officer to Ethiopia   | AFR/EMS       | AID Ag Economist is already in Ethiopia on TDY. Follow up action to make assignment permanent is required. |
| (4) Determine scope of delegation and provide such delegation to field for obligation and use of USG funds.  | AFR/EA/AFR/GC |  |
| (5) Carryout assessment of adequacy port and other transport facilities to receive and handle the large volume of foods to be sent for the various programs. | FFP/AF/E      | Consultant to be contracted.   |
| (6) Work with NOAA to improve quality of information of on-the ground situation.   | AFR/EA/FFP    |  |

Objective III. Assure that food assistance programs are well targeted and administered effectively; Complement food assistance with other resources to assure an effective response to the emergency

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| (1) Develop strategy and negotiating plan for Dawit visit to Washington.   | AFR/EA/AF/E | Dawit ETA Nov. 1/84. Plan, including specific negotiating positions, to be drafted and cleared by October 29, 1984. |
| (2) Recruit and send team to finalize implementation and technical details of agreement for Govt. to Govt program. | FFP/AFR/EA  |   |

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| 3) Sign agreement with GOE.   | Embassy, FFP, AFR/EA      | GOE has agreed in principle with basic terms of agreement. Issues of govt. to govt. food program will be discussed with Dewit during his Washington visit. |
| (4) Recruit and assign food monitors to assist in implementation of Government to Government Program.                   | FFP/AF/EA                 | This action will follow signature of Gvt to Gvt agreement  |
| (5) Promote strengthening of the international food distribution system.  | FFP/OFDA<br>AFR/EA<br>FVA | Requests from PVOs for resources to upgrade their logistics capability will be considered.   |
| (6) Encourage the EEC to allow the use of funds earmarked for Ethiopia for internal transport costs of food commodities | AF/E                      | A representation will be made to the EEC through the U.S. Ambassador in Geneva.  |

Objective IV. Assure that the public, the Congress and other interested institutions receive upon request reliable and prompt information on the AFR drought situation and the extent of USG assistance.

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| 1. Brief Congress   | Head of AFR/Drought<br>LEG, XA, AFR/EA | These are continuing activities |
| 2. Prepare briefing materials   | AFR/Drought<br>AFR/EA, AF/E            |                                 |
| 3. Keep UN Mission to UN informed on USG relief assistance in Ethiopia. | AFR/DP<br>AFR/EA                       | Continuing                      |

Objective V. Encourage concerted actions by the international donor community to promote GOE actions designed to alleviate in the medium and long-term the causes which led to the current disaster.

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Clearance:

AFR/EA, B. Kline  
OFDA,  
FVA/FFP,  
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ETHIOPIA DROUGHT : PLAN OF ACTION

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ACTION PLAN